

REMARKS

Statement of Substance of Examiner's Interview

On May 9, 2006, Applicants' representative met with Examiner Kiliman to discuss the § 102 rejection over Hutkin.

During the interview, the Examiner stated that Hutkin discloses applying a powdery resin composition to a copper foil and to a carrier. The carrier disclosed in Hutkin is typically a plastic film or a metal foil (column 1, lines 50-62). The Examiner acknowledged that this is the case. However, the Examiner asserted that the background section of Hutkin teaches using paper, glass, cloth or fibers as a carrier (column 1, lines 12-17). Therefore, the Examiner asserted that Hutkin teaches or at least suggests applying a powdery resin composition to at least one side of a base paper.

On May 23, 2006, Applicants' representative telephoned the Examiner to clarify what the Examiner considered the "carrier layer," for example in Fig. 7 in Hutkin. The Examiner explained that in Fig. 7 in Hutkin, he considers the plastic layer alone, 24c, the glass layer alone, 56c, or both the plastic layer and glass layer as a whole to be the "carrier layer."

Agreement as to the patentability of the claimed invention was not reached during the interview. The Examiner has agreed to reconsider his position upon the submission of the response by Applicants.

Remarks in Response to the final Office Action dated March 8, 2006

The specification has been amended. Support for the amendments can be found in Fig. 1 of the present application.

Claims 1-15 and 18 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Hutkin.

The rejection is moot as to claims 16 and 17 since both claims have been canceled.

As to claims 1-15 and 18, the Examiner states that in Fig. 7 in Hutkin, the plastic layer alone, 24c, the glass layer alone, 56c, or both the plastic layer and glass layer as a whole could be the "carrier layer" and it would be obvious to substitute paper in place of the "carrier layer" based on the description at lines 12-17 in column 1 in Hutkin.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, the base paper of the present invention could not be substituted for either the plastic layer or the glass layer of Hutkin because Hutkin does not disclose or suggest using paper, glass, cloth or fibers as a carrier of the copper foil. Hutkin only teaches that the carrier layer is a plastic film or a metal foil, not a glass layer or a combination of a glass layer and a plastic layer (see column 1, lines 55-57).

Additionally, the object of the invention disclosed in Hutkin is to provide an improved inexpensive, simple, and efficient method of making a very thin copper foil and plastic composite (see column 2, lines 64-68). Hutkin merely teaches using paper, glass, cloth or fibers as a support for supporting an uncured resin, not a carrier of a copper foil.

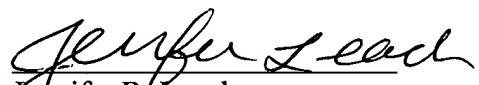
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the § 102(b) rejection of claims 1-17 based on Hutkin should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Appln. No.: 10/661,566
Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer R. Leach
Registration No. 54,257

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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